



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Wednesday, September 20, 2006

Electricity

APS' 1,243 MW Palo Verde Nuke Unit 1 in Arizona Shut September 19

Arizona Public Service Co. (APS) shut the 1,243 MW nuclear unit due to problems with several pressurizer heaters in the unit. The problems have occurred over the past several months and operators decided to shut down the unit to perform diagnostic testing. The unplanned outage is expected to last at least five days, an APS spokesperson said.

<http://biz.yahoo.com/bizj/060919/1348099.html?v=1>

http://today.reuters.com/news/articleinvesting.aspx?type=bondsNews&storyID=2006-09-19T223722Z_01_N19412588_RTRIDST_0_UTILITIES-APS-PALOVERDE-UPDATE-2.XML

Progress Energy' 900 MW Shearon Harris Nuke Unit in North Carolina Shut Sept. 19

The 900 MW nuclear power plant in Raleigh, North Carolina automatically shut down around 10 a.m. on September 19 due to a generator problem. The plant is shut while workers are trying to determine the cause of the problem; a company spokesperson said it is expected to resume operation on September 20.

<http://www.heraldsun.com/state/6-771174.html>

Bruce Power's 790 MW Bruce Nuke Unit 5 in Ontario Shut Sept. 19

The 790 MW nuclear power plant in Ontario shut on September 19 for a short-term outage due to a loss of vacuum, following Unit 3's short-term outage to fix a seal on one of the unit's heat transport pumps. Additionally, per Independent Electricity System Operator's request, the 822 MW Unit 6 reduced output to 635 MW.

http://today.reuters.com/news/articleinvesting.aspx?view=CN&symbol=&storyID=2006-09-19T161633Z_01_N19390616_RTRIDST_0_UTILITIES-BRUCE-UPDATE-2.XML&pageNumber=0&WTModLoc=InvArt-C1-ArticlePage2&sz=13

Petroleum

Citgo Has Small Fire at 165,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery Sept. 20

The company reported a small fire at the refinery. Trading sources said that the 30,000 b/d reformer was shut and is expected to restart in the next day.

Reuters, 09:28 September 20, 2006

Alon USA Slows Crude Rates at Big Spring, Texas Refinery Sept. 19

The company said that the refinery was back at full rates today after a 24-hour slowdown on Tuesday to fix a leak in the heat exchanger to the reformer. Alon said that the fluidic catalytic cracking unit was not affected.

Reuters, 12:59 September 20, 2006

BP Plans to Expand Canadian Heavy Crude Refining in Whiting, Indiana

On September 20, BP announced plans to invest \$3 billion in Canadian heavy crude oil processing at its Whiting, Indiana refinery. Currently, the refinery produces about 4.5 billion gallons of transportation fuel each year. The proposed project will increase production of motor fuels by 15% or 1.7 million additional gallons of motor fuels a day. Pending regulatory approvals, construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in 2007 and complete by 2011. In the past 18 months, U.S. refining companies have revealed plant expansion plans totaling about 1 million b/d.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/News/Story/Story.aspx?guid=%7bF02840DA-43E1-42B8-BFE1-A1ECC22D567E%7d&siteid=yahoo&dist=yahoo>

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060920/nyw096.html?v=72>

Reuters, 15:55 September 20, 2006

PAA Pipeline to Proceed with Phase VI Expansion at its Cushing Terminal in Oklahoma

On September 19, Plains All American (PAA) Pipeline announced it will proceed with the Phase VI expansion of its Cushing crude oil storage and terminal facility in Cushing, Oklahoma. The expansion will construct approximately 3.4 million barrels of additional crude oil storage, expanding the total capacity of the facility to 10.8 million barrels. The new tankage will become operational during the fourth quarter of 2007.

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060919/datu017.html?v=63>

U.S. Distillate Inventories Rose to Highest Level in 8 Years Last Week – EIA

Commercial distillate supplies, which include heating oil, were at 148.7 million barrels in the week ended Sept. 15, the highest level since January 1999.

Reuters, 10:42 September 20, 2006

Super Tanker Runs Aground, Another Leaks in Suez Canal

Today a Marshall Islands-flagged Very Large Crude Carrier en route to the Canadian port of Come by Chance ran aground in the Suez Canal and a Liberian-flagged tanker collided with a canal bank, spilling oil into the canal.

Sources said that the first tanker has been refloated. The canal authority has not said how much oil was spilled into the canal.

Reuters, 13:10 September 20, 2006

Fire Kills One at Ras Tanura Oil Complex in Saudi Arabia

Bloomberg News reports that the affected facility was a crude oil export terminal but the Associated Press and other media sources report that the facility was an oil refinery. Both sources report that the fire was under control within an hour and had no affect on operations.

Bloomberg News, 08:36 September 20, 2006

<http://www.forbes.com/home/feeds/ap/2006/09/20/ap3031920.html>

<http://www.turkishpress.com/news.asp?id=143013>

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

DOE Proposes Postponing Alternative Fuel Deadline to 2030

In 1992 Congress passed energy legislation mandating that 30 percent of fuel used in U.S. cars and trucks come from alternative fuel sources by 2010. Alternative fuel sources include ethanol, natural gas, hydrogen, electricity or other non petroleum-based fuels. The U.S. Department of Energy has said that the United States won't be able to meet that goal and proposed extending the deadline to 2030. The DOE said that currently alternative fuels supply only 2.5 percent of total motor fuel used in the United States.

Reuters, 13:46 September 20, 2006

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
September 20, 2006			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	60.00	64.43	66.24
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.87	5.57	12.76

Source: Reuters

Progress Energy Resumes Limited Synthetic-Fuel Production at Some Plants

Bloomberg News, 12:12 September 20, 2006

NRC Begins Special Inspection at Seabrook Nuke Plant in New Hampshire

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2006/06-053i.html>

Silvan Power Plans 24 MW Biomass-Fueled Power Plant in Oregon

http://www.mailtribune.com/archive/2006/0919/biz/stories/19_biomassoregon.htm

EIA Analysis: US Maximum Working Gas Storage Capacity Estimate is 3600 Bcf

http://www.eia.doe.gov/pub/oil_gas/natural_gas/analysis_publications/ngcapacity/ngcapacity.pdf

Florida Power & Light Pipeline Leaks 21 Barrels of Oil at Port Manatee in Tampa Bay, Florida

http://www.heraldtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/2006_0919/NEWS/609190565

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/index.aspx>.

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